

Message Text

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41

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-06 ISO-00 EB-07 SSO-00 /032 W

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O R 171542Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6408

USDOC WASHDC IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY FREETOWN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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FREETOWN PASS SIEGEL

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETEL, BEXP, LI

SUBJECT: LIBERIAN SATELLITE GROUND STATION

REF: FREETOWN 1652 (NOTAL)

1. CHECKING ON LEAD PASSED BY FREETOWN (REFTEL) WE OBTAINED LATEST INFORMATION ON GOL INTENTION REGARDING COMMUNICATION SATELLITE GROUND STATION FROM GENERAL MANAGER LIBERIAN TELECOMMUNICATIONS CORP. (LTC) WHO IS AMCIT EMPLOYEE OF GTE.

2. HE INDICATED LTC HAD RECEIVED BIDS FROM JAPANESE (MARUBENI), UK (CABLE & WIRELESS), FRENCH (FRENCH CABLE), ITALIAN (ITALCABLE) AND AMERICAN (PAGE AND COMSAT GENERAL) FIRMS. LTC HAS RECOMMENDED TO PRESIDENT EITHER FRENCH OR ITALIAN PROPOSAL, WITH ITALCABLE AS FRONTRUNNER.

3. CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSALS WAS QTE PURELY ON ECONOMIC FACTORS UNQTE. REPORTEDLY BOTH AMERICANS CAME IN WITH PROPOSALS FOR FULL STATIONS IN NEIGHBORHOOD OF \$6 MILLION (EVIDENTLY PAGE LATER MODIFIED PROPOSAL). LTC ALSO HAS PRESIDENTIAL REQUIREMENT OF OPERATION BY JANUARY 76 AND
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FEELS FULL STATION WOULD TAKE TOO LONG TO BUILD.

4. LTC RECOMMENDING NON-STANDARD STATION WITH 60 CHANNELS.
ITALIAN PROPOSAL IS TO LEASE STATION TO LTC - COST: APPROX.
DOLS. TWO MILLION. FRENCH PROPOSED ESTABLISHMENT OF LTC
SUBSIDIARY WHICH WOULD BE JOINT VENTURE - COST: APPROX. DOLS.
TWO POINT SIX MILLION. LTC HOPING PRESIDENT WILL MAKE
DECISION THIS WEEK.

5. WE DON'T KNOW IF IT TOO LATE TO HELP EITHER COMSAT OR
PAGE ON THIS. EMBASSY WILLING APPROACH GOL AT HIGHEST
NECESSARY LEVEL IF US COMPANIES HAVE ATTRACTIVE OFFER. PLEASE
ADVISE.
MANFULL

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
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Disposition Authority: KelleyW0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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